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## The Parthenon, January 28, 2016

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# THE PARTHENON

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016 | VOL. 119 NO. 54 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | [marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com) | SINGLE COPY FREE

## Journalism professor named History Hero

By **CHEYENNE DEBOLT**  
THE PARTHENON

Burnis Morris, Marshall University's Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications, will be honored Friday at West Virginia History Day in Charleston as a 2016 History Hero.

Morris was recognized as one of 50 individuals who have contributed to state and local history.

The Carter G. Woodson Foundation nominated Morris for his work with the foundation, including writing a book regarding Woodson's life, which will be published within the next year.

"It's nice to be recognized," Morris said. "I had no idea I was being considered for the award; it is a humbling experience."

Morris' work and research on Woodson began when he was named the 2011 John Deaver Drinko Distinguished Fellow. Morris chose to do his research on the life of Woodson and became interested in Woodson as a journalist and historian.

Woodson worked with the Black Press from the 1920s through the 1940s, which Morris said helped enable Woodson.

Morris' research started the preservation of Woodson's accomplishments.

"Often, if you don't preserve history, you lose sight of what's important and you try to reinvent what has been produced and discovered," Morris said. "And you need to be aware you might not be the first person to do something."

Alan Gould, executive director of the Drinko Academy, began collaborating with Morris after he was named a fellow. In 2015, the two, along with other organizations, met to discuss programs for this year's Black History Month, an observance



LEXI BROWNING | THE PARTHENON

Burnis Morris, Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications, poses for a photo

Woodson wanted to be yearlong.

"He did not believe that Black History should be separated from other history," Morris said. "He believed there was one history and that black history should be integrated into all history."

The Drinko Academy, along with Morris, has organized events throughout February to remember Woodson and his ties to the city of Huntington, West Virginia.

"We want to help the people of our area understand what a wonderful American we have here," Gould said.

The activities scheduled include a celebration of Woodson's life on Marshall's campus, as well as displays in public libraries and lessons and programs in local public schools.

"Morris carried heavy weight in this project," Gould said.

Newatha Meyers, president of the Carter G. Woodson

Foundation, said Morris' partnership with the Academy is an example of his commitment to preserving the legacy of Woodson, which eventually led to his History Hero nomination.

"The work he's done is truly outstanding, and he really deserves this," Meyers said.

Morris and Gould have worked with Huntington Mayor Steve Williams to declare Feb. 5, 2016 as Carter G. Woodson Day. In addition, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin is working on a proclamation and Senator Joe Manchin and Representative Evan Jenkins are preparing statements for the congressional record.

History Day at the Capitol begins 9:30 a.m. at the Culture Center's State's Theater.

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## UKirk speaker gives medical perspective of crucifixion

By **NANCY PEYTON**  
THE PARTHENON

UKirk students heard from Marshall University alumnus Tuesday about what the crucifixion of Jesus was like from a medical standpoint.

Adam Franks is a graduate from the School of Medicine at Marshall and is currently a professor of Family Community Health. During his time as a student at Marshall, Franks said he was a member of UKirk.

"I was here when UKirk was called PROWL (People Reaching Out With Love)," Franks said. "Twenty-five years ago I was sitting right here in this same room where you guys are now."

Franks said he became interested in studying the medical aspects of the crucifixion while

he was a college student.

"When I was in medical school, we got a lecture from one of the professors about this subject," Franks said. "It wasn't a mandatory lecture, it was just a 'for fun' lecture around Easter time. I thought it was a really amazing thing."

This wasn't the first time some of the students had heard about what happens to the body during crucifixion. Freshman, Emily Underwood said she heard a similar lecture when she was young.

"When I was in Sunday school, during middle school, we did a talk like this, where it got nitty-gritty," Underwood said. "We were a little too young to be having this conversation, so it's nicer to hear it now, when I'm older and not

as freaked out."

Sophomore, Raisa Nuñez said she has been coming to the club weekly, but was intrigued to learn that UKirk would be hosting this lecture.

"When I heard they were doing this lecture, I really wanted to come because of my bio-medical background," Nuñez said. "When you hear details, it just sets another dimension to the fact that this actually happened, this is real."

Nuñez said she felt this lecture was beneficial to everyone, despite denomination or belief.

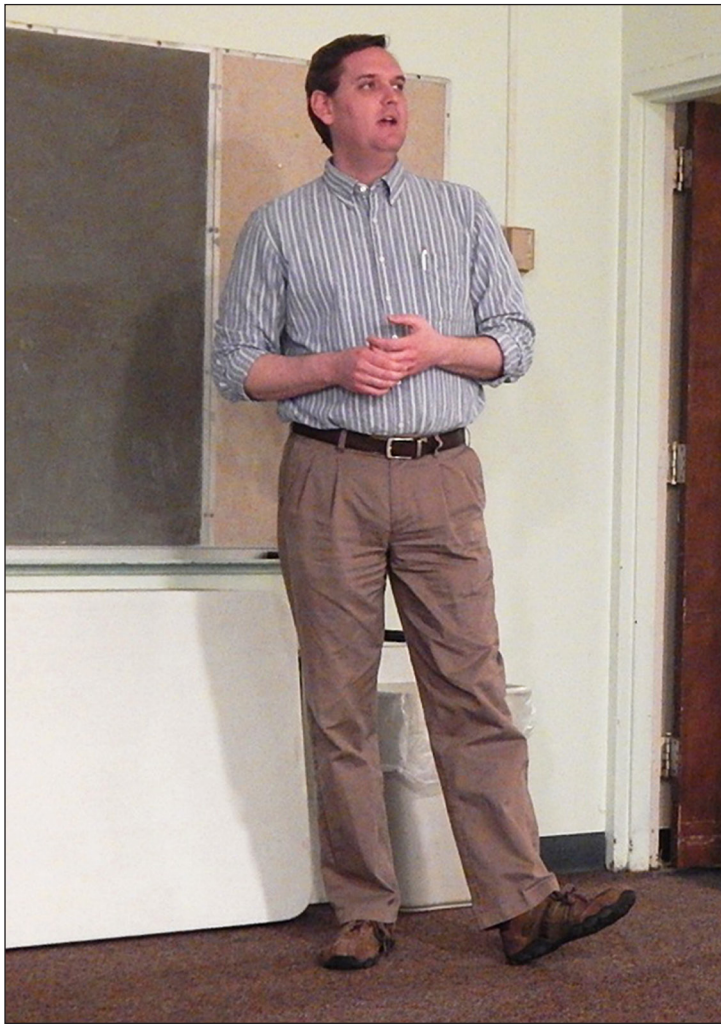
"As Christians, we're the body of Christ," Nuñez said. "Being able to come together as different parts of the Christian community to share what we know and our take on Christ's message is really empowering."

Looking at the crucifixion from a medical viewpoint, that just hammered it home. You understand things a little deeper. I think it's beneficial for anyone, Christian or not, to understand."

Franks said despite the fact crucifixion is a grueling subject, he feels it is important to hear this story so that a more important message can be understood.

"I know I've kind of brought you through a gruesome and gory tale here, but the important thing is that the cross is now empty," Franks said. "We believe Jesus went through all of this for us. This is the most important message of all."

**Nancy Peyton can be contacted at [peyton22@marshall.edu](mailto:peyton22@marshall.edu).**



NANCY PEYTON | THE PARTHENON

Adam Franks, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine alumnus, speaks about crucifixion from a medical perspective to UKirk, Wednesday.

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# Snyder pledges help to Flint amid mistrust of government



JAKE MAY | THE FLINT JOURNAL-MLIVE.COM | VIA AP  
Flint resident Herbert Biggs, 59, throws a case of bottled water in the back of his truck, as he gathers water for his neighborhood on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016 at a fire station in Flint, Mich.

By DAVID EGGERT and  
MIKE HOUSEHOLDER

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flint residents coping with lead contamination will be cleared to drink unfiltered water again only when outside experts determine it is safe, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said Wednesday, acknowledging their mistrust of government officials while saying a full replacement of the city's pipes is not imminent.

A lawsuit filed earlier in the day by environmental and civil rights groups asked a federal judge to order the prompt replacement of all lead pipes in Flint's water system at no cost to customers. Snyder did not rule out the eventual replacement of the lead service lines leading from water mains, but said it is a longer-term consideration.

In the meantime, Flint hired a Virginia Tech professor who

helped expose the lead problem despite initial skepticism from state regulators to now oversee water testing. Professor Marc Edwards also was appointed by Snyder to a committee that will set in place long-term solutions.

"There absolutely is a trust issue," Snyder said during a news conference with state and local officials who announced more plans to address the city's crisis. The Legislature is expected to direct \$28 million in additional funding toward Flint on Thursday.

Mayor Karen Weaver said residents should not have to pay for the water "they did not and are not using." Emergency budget legislation approved Wednesday by a Senate committee includes \$3 million to help Flint with unpaid water bills.

"I was glad that the governor said these are just first steps because I'm asking for a staircase," she said.

Flint residents are currently unable to drink unfiltered tap water, and tests have shown high lead levels in some children's blood. While under state financial management, the city switched its water source to the Flint River but without controlling corrosion. That caused lead

to leech into the water for a year and a half and contributed to the spike in child lead exposure before state and officials fully acknowledged the problem in early October.

It remains unclear how badly the lead service lines were damaged by the river water. While Snyder's administration has estimated it could cost up to \$55 million to repair some 15,000 pipes, he cautioned that more study is needed.

"A lot of work is being done to even understand where the lead services lines fully are," Snyder said. "The short-term issue is about recoating the pipes (with chemicals) and that will be based on third-party experts saying the water is safe. ... It's a lot of work to take out pipes, to redo all the infrastructure."

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Interim Director Keith Creagh said water samples show "things are trending better," but he stressed the results are not statistically valid.

# Rancher killed in standoff vowed to die before going to jail

By KEITH RIDLER and  
REBECCA BOONE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A member of an armed anti-government group who was killed in a traffic stop in Oregon vowed a few weeks ago that he would die before spending his life behind bars.

LaVoy Finicum, a 55-year-old rancher from Cane Beds, Arizona, died Tuesday after law enforcement officers initiated the stop near the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Finicum was a leader of the armed group that took over the southeast Oregon refuge Jan. 2 to protest federal land restrictions and object to the prison sentences of two local ranchers convicted of setting fires.

He and other occupiers were heading to a community meeting in the town of John Day, about 70 miles north of Burns.

It's unclear what happened in the moments before his death. Authorities said shots were fired but have declined to say how many, or if Finicum or any of the other activists exchanged gunfire with officers.

Eight occupiers were arrested, including group leader Ammon Bundy. On Wednesday, Harney County Sheriff Dave Ward said the traffic stop initiated on a stretch of road away from populated areas was a tactical decision that officials hoped would bring a peaceful end to the standoff.

Finicum was a prominent presence at the refuge and frequently talked with reporters. His affable but passionate demeanor made him a popular subject for on-camera interviews.

Finicum seemed to have made up his mind about how his role in the occupation was likely to end — with his death.

Just a few days into the occupation, he came barreling to the refuge entrance in a federal truck.

Rifle in hand, Finicum sat in the middle of the driveway, telling the reporters gathered around him that he learned there was a warrant for his arrest and he wanted to make it easy for federal agents to find him.

At the time, he said he didn't know what the warrant charged him with, but he believed agents would try to arrest him soon.

"I don't think it really matters. There's enough things they could make a warrant for us, I believe," he said.

Finicum said he had neither threatened nor harmed anyone during the occupation.

"I have grown up loving the fresh air. I love the elements. And this is where I'm going to breathe my last breath," he said. "... I'm not going to spend my last days in a cell. This world is too beautiful to spend it in a cell."

He then gave a message to his family: "And kids, if I don't come, you know I love you and I'm proud of every damn one of you."

The rancher was media-savvy and tried to popularize and monetize his political beliefs on his website, [www.onecowboystandforfreedom.com](http://www.onecowboystandforfreedom.com). He used the site to sell his book, a 252-page paperback titled "Only by Blood and Suffering," as well as T-shirts, bumper stickers and posters emblazoned with slogans like "Let Freedom Ring" and "Defend the Constitution Original Intent."

He described himself as a longtime friend of Ammon Bundy's father, Cliven Bundy, and he participated in the standoff with federal authorities over grazing fees at the elder Bundy's Nevada ranch in 2014.

Finicum and his wife, Jeanette, raised dozens of foster children, though social workers removed the kids from the couple's home a few days after the occupation began.



AP PHOTO | RICK BOWMER

In this Jan. 9, 2016 file photo, LaVoy Finicum, a rancher from Arizona, speaks to the media after members of an armed group along with several other organizations arrive at the at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns, Ore.

Finicum said the foster kids were the family's main source of income.

Catholic Charities paid the family more than \$115,000 in 2009 to foster children, according to tax filings. Foster parents are generally paid a small per-child amount by the government. It's intended to reimburse them for the costs incurred in fostering. The money sometimes is disbursed through nonprofit partners.

# Jessica Kirson to perform comedy show

By SON NGUYEN  
THE PARTHENON

Comedian Jessica Kirson will perform for Marshall students as part of the Campus Activities Board's "Women of Comedy" series.

On her personal website, Kirson describes her comedy style as "unique." Kirson's site said her "captivating stage presence captures the attention of audiences and club bookers everywhere."

Before performing at Marshall, Kirson had appeared on popular talk shows such as "Late Night with Jay Leno," "The View" and "The Dr. Oz Show."

Kirson has also participated in reality TV shows, including NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and "Celebrity Apprentice." In

2009, she received the "Best Female Comic" award by the Manhattan Association of Cabaret and Clubs.

Marshall junior, Morgan Foos said she is excited to go to the show.

"I really enjoy going to comedy events and watching comedies on TV, so I'm excited that we have the opportunity to have someone like Kirson here," Foos said.

Kirson will perform from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Marco's Room, located in the lower level of the Memorial Student Center. Marshall students can attend the show for free with their student IDs.

**Son Nguyen can be contacted at [nguyen136@marshall.edu](mailto:nguyen136@marshall.edu).**

# APO combines recruitment and service project

By LYDIA WAYBRIGHT  
THE PARTHENON

Alpha Phi Omega, Marshall University's community service-based fraternity, is combining recruitment and a service project this week in the Memorial Student Center lobby.

"We're doing recruitment and we're doing a service project at the same time," said chapter vice president, Chelsea Smith.

Smith and other members of APO will have a table from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday and Friday where students can learn about the fraternity as well as write a card for children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The APO table has bubbles, informational flyers,

colored pencils and cards to write for children at St. Jude and mints they nicknamed "encourage-mints."

"We're just looking for new brothers," Smith said. Smith said they currently have about 20 members and are looking to pass down the torch.

The fraternity is hosting events for recruitment week including Video Game Night Thursday and Board Game Night Friday. Smith said these events were intended to be in the Harless Media Room, but the university sent an announcement that Harless Dining Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday. Students can contact Smith at [smith1854@marshall.edu](mailto:smith1854@marshall.edu) or stop by the information table at the student center to

find out where the events will be relocated.

Smith said APO does service projects and social events throughout the school year. Smith said they do community service, visit animal shelters, play bingo with the elderly and do river and street cleanup.

"Yesterday we made burritos for the homeless," Smith said. Smith said last year they put on a drag show to raise money for the Born This Way Foundation, using a fun social event to fundraise for a cause.

"We also take up donations," Smith said.

Smith said the group is affiliated with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and many scouts join the fraternity once they get to college.

"We're a totally clean and dry chapter," Smith said. Smith said the social events they host are often activities like movie nights in the Harless Media room.

Students can search "Alpha Phi Omega Marshall University" on Facebook and like the group's page, contact Chelsea Smith or visit the table this week for more information about the fraternity.

**Lydia Waybright can be contacted at [waybright19@marshall.edu](mailto:waybright19@marshall.edu)**





# SPORTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Men’s hoops returning home in clash for second place in Conference USA standings

By **CHRISTIAN HISMAN**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University men’s basketball team will go up against Middle Tennessee State University 7 p.m. Thursday in a game with second place in the conference standings on the line.

The Herd (10-10, 6-1) responded from its first conference loss to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Jan. 21 with a close road win against Old Dominion University Saturday.

In the 78-75 victory over ODU, forward James Kelly, who led the team with 21 points and 13 rebounds, hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with just four seconds left to put the Herd up by three.

Junior guard Stevie Browning said the team played solid defense toward the end of the game and the team’s overall effort throughout the contest instrumental in the victory.

Thursday, the Herd will play within the confines of the Cam Henderson Center for the first time since Jan. 9 after playing four straight games on the road.

The team achieved a 3-1 record over the course of that road trip, but players said it’s a relief to be playing in front of the home fans again.

“It feels great to be playing at home again after all the wins we got on the road,” freshman forward Jacob Kilgore said.

Browning said not having to stay in a hotel will be a pleasant change from the past couple weeks. He said he will be looking forward to getting a good night of sleep and



Redshirt freshman guard C.J. Burks pulls up for a shot in a game earlier this season.

MEGAN OSBORNE|THE PARTHENON

playing in front of the home crowd as well.

The Herd will need to be at it’s best during its two-game home stand Thursday and Saturday as its facing off against two teams that are playing just as well as it is in conference play.

Middle Tennessee State is tied

with Marshall for second place in the conference with a 6-1 record, while Saturday’s matchup with UAB pits the Herd against the 7-0 and conference-leading Blazers.

If the Herd was to win both games, it would secure a place atop the conference standings heading into next week, but such

a scenario is unlikely if the Herd doesn’t maintain its focus during weekly preparation.

“The team needs to stay focused this week in practice and continue to play the way they have been playing,” Kilgore said.

**Christian Hisman can be contacted at hisman@marshall.edu.**

## Women’s basketball attempts to build on latest victory during road trip



PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

Junior forward Chelsey Romero goes up for a shot in a game last season.

By **CHRISTIAN HISMAN**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University women’s basketball team will hit the road to Murfreesboro, Tennessee as it takes on Middle Tennessee State University 7:30 Thursday.

This will be the team’s first game on the road following a four-game home stretch that saw the Herd go 2-2.

The veteran members of the team said they recognize the back-to-back road contests Thursday and Saturday will be a grind.

“The team needs to be ready to get punched and punch back to get these next few wins on the road,” senior guard Norrishia Victrum said.

“The team needs to keep up the

momentum and energy from last game over these next two road games and keep playing the way they have been playing,” junior forward Chelsey Romero said.

Following a tough 64-61 home loss to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Jan. 21, the team bounced back with a comfortable 80-62 win over Old Dominion University Sunday.

Sophomore guard Taylor Porter and her long-range shooting were key for the Herd in the victory. Porter led the team 18 points and went 4-6 from beyond the arc.

“The loss to Charlotte was a tough loss,” Romero said. “But against Old Dominion, we threw the first punch. And after that the rest of the game

took care of itself.”

Thursday’s game against Middle Tennessee State will present a challenge, as the Blue Raiders are riding a two-game win streak and currently rank third in the conference with a 5-2 record.

Romero said the Herd will have to be effective on the boards to pull off the upset.

Specifically, Romero and her fellowfrontcourt teammates may be targeting the offensive glass and second-chance opportunities as Middle Tennessee State ranks last in the conference in defensive rebounds per game with 18.6.

**Christian Hisman can be contacted at hisman@marshall.edu.**

## Kelly, Herd rising to conference’s elite

By **DANIELLE WRIGHT**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University’s star basketball player James Kelly is on track to becoming something special.

The red-shirt junior recently registered his 10th consecutive double-double of the season against Old Dominion University. Even more impressive, Kelly landed the game-clinching 3-point shot against the Monarchs to give his team the victory.

Though his future looks bright, the power forward had to overcome obstacles to get to this point.

Kelly joined the Herd after departing from the University of Miami men’s basketball team in 2014 and was forced to sit out last season at Marshall because of NCAA regulations.

“It was mind-boggling because I wanted to be on the court, but I couldn’t when they were down,” Kelly said. “I wanted to go and score.”

The Ann Arbor, Michigan native said he had to remain positive and encourage his teammates in practice despite his absence on the court.

Kelly said he received encouragement from his head coach Dan D’Antoni, which helped him enter this season with the right mindset.

“He would tell me I was the best player and I didn’t believe him,” Kelly said. “But he always reminded me of the potential I had.”

Kelly said he did not expect to have the season he has had thus far.

With a seven-game losing streak in the beginning of the season to now leading Conference USA in double doubles, his performance has noticeably spiked.

The 6-foot-8 forward said he thinks star athletes have to take chances when the game is on the line, which is precisely what Kelly did Saturday against the Monarchs.

“I just felt it, like, I needed to take that shot,” Kelly said. “I focused on that shot. And luckily, it went in. I didn’t see nobody. I just shot it.”

The Herd is 6-1 against other Conference-USA teams, but it has struggled with teams that are not within its conference, posting a 4-9 record in non-conference games.

While confidence may play a part in why the team falls short against schools in bigger conferences, Kelly, who transferred from the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), said a lack of confidence is not a trait he possesses.

“It’s all mental, really,” Kelly said. “There are five other guys out there playing the same sport you are playing, trying to do the same thing you are doing. And that’s what I try to tell my team.”

Kelly said despite the Herd’s slow start, he feels his team has a very good chance of winning its first-ever C-USA championship this season.

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THE PARTHENON

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COLUMN

Pop Vulture: Kanye causes bigger storm than Jonas

I have about three news apps on my phone: CNN, Huffington Post and BuzzFeed News. They send me various notifications throughout the day about world events that matter.

Today on my catch up section via my Buzzfeed News app, the first thing mentioned was blizzard Jonas and its impact. The second was an update about the Zika virus and how 24 regions are under a travel warning. Lastly, was Rihanna's new single, but this was quickly replaced with the alert of Kanye West and Wiz Khalifa's Twitter argument.

We, as a nation, have an obsession with pop culture. I will shamelessly admit I follow the latest trends and try to keep up with all things going on in the world, especially the entertainment world.

As soon as the alert came through that Yeezus and Wiz were fighting, I went straight to check what was going on, even while my professor was mid lecture. The tweets were deleted, but thank God for the multiple accounts that recycle tweets they find on other accounts in the Twitterverse.

The screengrabs showed me the sexist comments from Kanye and how Wiz didn't really care what was going on and didn't give much of a reaction. However, after catching myself up on this, my classmates and I started talking about it with so much excitement.

As soon as the conversation was over, I went back and looked at the other top stories.

Why were we not talking about this virus? Why were we not talking about all the regions it is effecting? We were so focused on an argument that is going to cause viral memes and be a hot topic on The View for a week instead of something that was harming

lives. Have we let pop culture take over our minds when we think of real news?

This Kanye and Wiz Twitter fight is entertaining, but is it actually newsworthy? No, it isn't. Yet we are so consumed by pop culture, we have our minds programmed to think it is. I decided to challenge myself, not only as a journalist, but also as a genuine

human being. I've decided to not give so much into the pop culture hysteria and focus more on what affects the world. Step away from E! News and watch more of CNN. Learn more about current events that impact society and not if waist trainers actually work.

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SCREENSHOT | TWITTER

EDITORIAL

Citizens still suffer from Michigan's blind eye to Flint



AP PHOTO | DARRON CUMMINGS | FILE

John Whitaker, executive director of Midwest Food Bank, carries a case of water that was donated, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2016, in Indianapolis. All of the water that was collected will be sent to Flint, Mich., where drinking water has been contaminated by lead.

For over a year citizens of Flint, Michigan have been drinking and using lead-tainted water without even a raised eyebrow from city officials. Only now after an outpour of rage from Flint residents are researchers and journalists doing their part to expose the wrongdoings that have tainted the waters in this Michigan city.

Only a week ago did the Federal Emergency Management Agency answer to a call of help from Michigan Governor, Rick Snyder. President Obama issued a state of emergency for Flint early this month and the National Guard and volunteers have done their part in distributing bottled water to residents, but Flint deserves more. The impoverished city of a black majority has been ignored for far too long about a problem that bottled water can no longer fix.

Immediately after the

decision to change pipeline paths, E Coli was found in the water to which officials responded to by adding chlorine to the water. This created a byproduct carcinogen called trihalomethane (TTHM), but it wasn't until January of 2015 that residents were informed.

After this, officials should have tested and taken action to correct the problem, but instead a blind eye continued to worsen problems for residents.

Residents pushed to question city officials why their water was in the state it was and why their children's health was at risk over something they couldn't control. The water was so bad at this point that General Motors was granted special permission to supply its Flint plant with water from Lake Huron because the water from the Flint River was rusting engine parts.

An entire corporation was granted permission to change its source of water because it tarnished widgets, but residents were still encouraged their water wasn't deteriorating their health. This should have been a giant red flag to any ethical person to make changes in the water distribution system.

A civil engineering professor at Virginia Tech, Marc Edwards, was contacted to research further into the water crisis in Flint. Edwards' findings concluded the water reacted with plumbing and attracted lead into the water. Local articles and news stories downplayed the gravity of the situation, leaving the residents of Flint helpless.

Besides being a public relations nightmare, Flint government faces a problem that will only continue to worsen if actions are taken fast.

Today residents continue to battle government officials and journalists who inaccurately tell the horror the residents of Flint are living through. Children who are diseased and now face physical challenges as a result of the water intake will forever be changed and the only form of help or compensation families in Flint have seen is a still a scarce amount of bottled water.

Officials are working to find blame for a situation that has been sickening and killing a city for two years. Whoever is to blame there has to be a fix, and fast. It is has to start with Governor Snyder finding money whether it is from the state budget or a plea to the federal government. It starts with Snyder, but it takes a larger force of outsiders and continued media attention to solve the problem these individuals are forced to live with.



# Jazz Combo Blue’s “Relaxin’” Wednesday night



**By LEAH COOK**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University’s Jazz Combo Blue paid tribute to Miles Davis Wednesday night in the Jomie Jazz Forum, covering songs from his hit album “Relaxin’.”

“Relaxin’”, originally released by the Miles Davis Quintet in 1958, had a large impact on performers in the Marshall ensemble.

“The Miles Davis Quintet and this arrangement in particular are kind of a baseline and really set the precedent of where music was going. It kind of looked at where music was and looked into the future,” said Lars Swanson, tenor saxophonist.

The music, performed by Jazz Combo Blue last semester, was a montage of different works, so turning its focus

to a legend like Miles Davis proved to be an exciting new undertaking.

“Miles Davis is one of the most iconic jazz musicians and especially jazz trumpet players, so listening to him and learning his music was a lot of fun,” Andrea Withee, Jazz Combo Blue Trumpeter, said.

The group practiced together throughout last semester, but between winter break and last week’s snow, had a daunting task putting the finishing touches on the show.

“With the winter break in between last semester and this performance we had a little bit of a crunch and then we had to postpone it because of the snow,” Swanson said. “We aren’t all from Huntington so we were only able to have a couple rehearsals over break.”

This was the last performance of this configuration of

Jazz Combo Blue, comprised of Hogan Bentle, Colin Milam, John Seals, Tim Smith, Lars Swanson, and Andrea Withee.

“The unique thing about this is that it was more of an extracurricular thing that the students decided to put together, they wanted to show the work they had done at the end of last semester” director Steven Heffner said. “They really are doing it for the love of the music and nothing else.”

The next event from the School of Music and Theatre, “MUSic Alive: Schumann A Dream”, will be held Friday, Jan. 29 at First Presbyterian Church, Fifth Avenue, Huntington.

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## Hugs of Hope comfort children in times of need



Hugs of Hope bears, displayed above, are delivered to children who are experiencing tragic circumstances.

**By TROY ALEXANDER**  
THE PARTHENON

Hugs Across America is a national charity that was started by New York school teacher Sue Lucarelli at The Churchill School in lower Manhattan on the morning of September 11, 2001.

Many children in her class were terrified, and she had one teddy bear setting on her desk. She was trying to calm the children in anyway possible, so she had them pass the bear around the class and give it a hug. She then promised to bring more the next day, going out that night and buying as many bears as possible, returning the next day and making sure every child got one. This ended up being the first group of kids to be helped by an organization that now has a chapter in nearly every state.

On January 2, 2006 the Sago mine in Upshur County, West

Virginia exploded, killing 12 miners and devastating a small community. Hugs Across America sent a shipment of bears to kids in the community trying to offer them some small comfort, marking the first time the organization made an impact in West Virginia.

In 2010 Fred and Amber Kitchen, owners of Henson & Kitchen Mortuary, stumbled across the national chapter while looking for a way to help their community.

Shortly after discussing their idea of opening up a local chapter with their daughters, Annalise and Arabella, Amber Kitchen stopped her work as a teacher for Springhill Elementary and started devoting her time to Hugs of Hope, their local branch.

“I have always had a passion when it comes to working with children,” Kitchen said.

With the help of her daughters and husband, they soon

were delivering stuffed bears to places like the Hospice House, Huntington Fire Department, Cabell Huntington Children’s Hospital and local schools. Most recently they visited Springhill Elementary after a fire claimed two students lives.

“Usually we just drop the bears off and let the nurses or whoever pass them out. This was the first time we had been in the classroom setting handing them out and seeing the kids reactions,” Kitchen said.

“If something as simple as giving a child a bear takes that anxiety or fear away for even a second, then it is worth it,” Fred Kitchen added.

It costs five dollars for one bear, and contributions of any amount are taken. Donations can be made to Hugs of Hope WV, or sent to 6357 East Pea Ridge Road.

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## What's behind the latest Fox-Trump battle

**DAVID BAUDER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Is Fox News Channel overplaying its hand or skillfully playing to its brand in dealing with Donald Trump?

The GOP presidential front-runner has dropped out of Thursday night’s Republican debate following an escalating public relations battle triggered in part by his call for Fox to dump Megyn Kelly as one of the moderators.

Is there a winner in this dispute? A loser?

“Donald Trump and (Fox Chairman) Roger Ailes are birds of a feather — they’re both geniuses at garnering publicity by fomenting conflict,” said Mark Feldstein, a veteran broadcast journalist and now a professor at the University of Maryland.

Trump believes he’s largely responsible for the campaign debates’ record ratings — 24 million people for Fox’s Aug. 6 faceoff, for example. Thursday may undermine that theory. Or people may turn out for the sheer theater involved, wondering if Trump might make a surprise appearance.

His discontent with Kelly dates to her question about his attitude toward women at the Aug. 6 debate. Fox responded to Trump’s tweeted request to dump Kelly by pointing out that a candidate doesn’t get to choose his questioners, and Ailes personally backed Kelly with a strong statement of support.

Then Fox added a sharply worded mocking statement with no name

attached: “We learned from a secret back channel that the Ayatollah and Putin both intend to treat Donald Trump unfairly when they meet him if he becomes president.” Fox also said Trump planned to replace the Cabinet with his Twitter followers.

The Putin statement was a tipping point and “clearly designed to incite,” Trump’s campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski, told radio host Laura Ingraham on Wednesday.

Neither Trump nor Ailes are known for backing down from fights, and Fox’s pugnacious attitude was a key in its rise to becoming one of the top-rated networks on cable TV.

The wagons circled on Wednesday: Fox’s Brit Hume tweeted a photo with Trump’s face superimposed on a baby’s, with the statement: “Megyn Kelly was mean to me! I want my binkey!”

Fox’s public response contrasts with CNN’s, after Trump said he wouldn’t show up for that network’s first debate last fall unless its profits from televising the exchange were donated to charity. Before CNN’s second debate, Trump suggested a specific donation to veterans’ groups. In both cases, CNN issued no statements in response (and made no donations), and Trump showed up.

While Fox was correct in defending its right to decide which journalists should question a candidate, Lee Kamlet, dean of the Quinnipiac University School of Communications in Connecticut, said the

network’s “snarky” press statements were a big mistake.

“I’m old school,” Kamlet said. “I happen to think presidential campaigns are important. For a news outlet to belittle any candidate as Fox News did, in my view diminishes the process.”

The Fox response also plays into Trump’s hand, since his supporters love when he takes on institutions, Kamet said.

There’s a certain irony in these two sides fighting. The liberal watchdog group Media Matters for America said that its researchers have found that Fox has covered Trump for two and a half times as long as any other candidate.

While Fox may suffer “a short-term loss in terms of the ratings for this particular debate, it’s a long-term gain for Fox in terms of their respectability and credibility,” Feldstein said.

One hint at another cause of the latest dispute came in a Fox statement issued late Tuesday, in which the network accused Lewandowski of a “terrorization” of Kelly. Fox said that in a conversation with one of its executives over the weekend, the Trump campaign manager noted that Kelly had a rough couple of days following the first debate and that he would hate to see that happen again.

Lewandowski, on MSNBC, called the characterization dishonest and said he hoped Fox would keep his discussions with one of its executives private.